



# Salesian Bulletin

No. 8 — AUGUST — 1906

♣ Vol. V. ♣

*Beatus qui intelligit super egenum et pauperem:  
in die mali liberabit eum Dominus. [Ps. XL.]*

*Sanctus*



✠ DA MIHI

ANIMAS CÆTERA TOLLE

# CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

FOUNDED IN FAVOUR OF

## THE ORATORY OF THE SACRED HEART

AT THE CASTRO PRETORIO IN ROME

TO WHICH IS ATTACHED THE CELEBRATION OF

### SIX MASSES DAILY IN PERPETUITY

offered for the intentions of those who make a single contribution  
OF ONE SHILLING

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## ADVANTAGES.

1. During the erection of the magnificent Temple, recently consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, at the Castro Pretorio in Rome, it was established that, as soon as the grand edifice were finished, the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin and other



prayers should be daily recited therein, and Holy Mass offered on Fridays for all Contributors to the Building Fund of this International Monument of devotion to the Sacred Heart. In order to augment these spiritual advantages and admit to their enjoyment a greater number of the faithful, the Charitable Association of the Sacred Heart of Jesus has been established in the above-named church; whereby all the members participate in the fruit of six Masses daily, in perpetuity, offered for the intentions of those who are inscribed in the books of the Association and have given an alms of One Shilling once for ever towards the Oratory of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

2. Two of these daily Masses will be celebrated at the Altar of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, two at that of Mary Help of Christians, and two at St. Joseph's. We may remark that Don Bosco's venerable name is associated with the two last-mentioned Altars, for on them he offered the Holy Sacrifice during his last stay in Rome.

3. Besides the six daily Masses all MEMBERS, both living and dead, participate in the fruits attached to:

(a) The recital of the Rosary and the imparting of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, which takes place every day in this church;

# The Salesian Bulletin

Organ of the Association of Salesian Co-operators

"Oratorio Salesiano" Turin, Italy.

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## IMPORTANT

We would call our Co-operator's special attention to the pages of this issue which treat of the home province. In more than one place the *Salesian School at London* is mentioned, besides a full page being devoted solely to it. The development of this school in all its branches is the main work of the Salesians in London, and through its advancement the province gains in general.

Another important work in progress is the completion of the *new Salesian Church* in a neighbouring suburb of the metropolis. The necessity of the Church has been long ago placed beyond doubt and the inconvenience of its absence is felt more and more. There can be no need to remind our readers of the *heavy burden* which its erection lays on the Salesian Priests in charge, especially as the effort being made to make the Church a little less unworthy of Our Blessed Lord, by a magnificent scheme of painting and decorating, adds greatly to its costliness.

Co-operators are earnestly appealed to in regard to these and other works which the Sons of Don Bosco are striving to accomplish amid difficult surroundings.

## Important Notice to Readers.

s announced previously in the **Bulletin**, the Rules of the Association of Salesian Co-operators, together with a summary of the Indulgences and spiritual favours, and appendices, have been reprinted and bound into a neat volume or manual.

A copy of this and a diploma of membership is being sent to all readers. If some of the dates affixed thereto are subsequent to the date of receipt, that is the day on which membership will commence, and on which the plenary indulgence may be gained.

Those readers, who on receiving a copy and reading the instructions and regulations, do not desire to be enrolled as members, should return the two things, and their names will be cancelled. Those who retain them will be definitively enrolled.

Explanations and information concerning the rule will be found in the manual, but will be supplemented by the **Bulletin**. Any member is of course free to withdraw his name at any future time should he so wish.

It is greatly desired that by this means a new impetus will be given to the development and active participation of the Salesian Co-operators, and that the works of Don Bosco will be known, esteemed, and aided more and more. It will also serve to strengthen the bond of charity, of prayer and of work, which ought to unite the Co-operators amongst themselves, and also to the members of the Salesian Society, with whom they work for the greater glory of God and the good of society at large.

# San Francisco. After the Catastrophe

Deeds of charity.—At the Salesian Parish of SS. Peter and Paul.—Useless wreckage.  
A re-commencement necessary

Oakland, May 1906.

VERY REV. DON RUA,

**N**OW that the fire has ceased its havoc, and preparations are already begun for a new and grander San Francisco, I am in a position to give you some details of our situation.

From the very commencement of the disaster a sort of blockade or siege was proclaimed and strictly maintained for several days; it was during these days that some were shot at, for attempting to rob the victims or search the ruins, though it is no doubt true that many innocent people were killed. A passport was necessary for an entrance into what was once the city, and those within were hurried out to seek shelter elsewhere. Boats and railways carried goods and passengers free so that in a few hours two hundred thousand people were safe without the zone of fire or shock. This town of Oakland opened wide its churches and buildings to harbour the harbourless and showed an admirable generosity in providing food and clothing. More than a hundred and fifty thousand fugitives were under cover from the very first night; we ourselves sheltered three hundred and fifty.

No sooner did the telegraph flash the news abroad, than train-loads of provisions and goods of every description began to pour in. The government voted a first grant of a million and a half dollars which, joined to other subscriptions, raised the total to six millions. America indeed rose to the situation and every conceivable thing was sent to the relief of the homeless who numbered finally 300,000. The distribution was well organised giving no chance for theft or speculation.

The greater part of this host lodged under canvas and others in different families. Some are already at work removing the debris, others are engaged on the repair of partly damaged houses, others again have sought a home in neighbouring States or gone back to Europe.


Here in Oakland there was no fire, but the earthquake was severe. Some buildings being erected by us were destroyed but the Church escaped with a slight shaking and the fall of two statues. Our Confrères in the Parish of SS. Peter and Paul thought themselves secure from the ravages of the fire, which indeed seemed to be at a safe distance; but a few hours changed their opinions, and being attacked on both sides they wisely sought safety in flight.

At two o'clock in the morning of the second day, Fr. Piperni arrived here with the Blessed Sacrament from the two Churches, and with other important things. In order to avoid the flames, he had to go right round the harbour, although even then the air was thick and dangerous. Fr. Redahan and Fr. Buss stayed some hours longer to save some other objects from the Church, which they took to the house of a friend on Telegraph Hill. Then seeing the church enveloped, and themselves in great danger, they hastened away by the one passage left and got into safer quarters. However, it seemed likely that the house too would be burnt down, and they transported some of the things to an open space and deposited them behind some rising ground. But the flames managed to get round to these and the church vestments and banners were burnt, while the goods left at the house were almost miraculously saved. The houses all around were already engulfed in

the flames, and the soldiers had intimated to the owners that it was time to depart. They obeyed, but desirous of making one last effort to save their house, they got back by another door, and going out on the roof kept the flames from the walls by throwing wine on them, as there was no water to be had. By this means they saved the place and the few remaining articles deposited within. Other families too consumed thousands of barrels of wine in keeping off the flames. Our Church however, so beautifully restored, was completely razed and everything in it destroyed; even the bells melted with the heat. It will have to be recommenced from its foundations. Fr. Pimperni has converted a stable into a chapel while Fr. Redahan and Fr. Buss say Mass, and perform what services can be done under tents or in the open air. Fr. Piovano and Fr. Puch are on the other side at *Corpus Christi*. Their house and Church were not entirely wrecked and can still be put to use.

Since the orderly distribution of food, every one can get the necessaries of life without very great trouble, and work in San Francisco is becoming plentiful, more than 150,000 having already found employment in the re-building. The streets and tramways are being repaired and a single line of railway laid down. Some are putting up temporary buildings, others small shops, others are beginning the foundations of new factories, and the electric cars are once more parading the streets. Hundreds of wealthy people and even millionaires are ruined. The working classes are for the present merely fighting for existence. San Francisco was in a state of great prosperity, but it was also given up to pleasure and vice. Almighty God has given it a terrible lesson half way in its course; may it profit by it. Do not forget our critical situation in your prayers and give a special blessing to Your devoted son in J. C.

Fr. BERGERETTI.  
(Salesian Priest).



## INDULGENCES

which may be gained by the Co-operators.

The following plenary indulgences may be gained by all the Co-operators who, having confessed and communicated, shall make a visit to a Church or public chapel, or in the case of communities a private chapel, and pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.

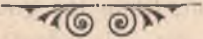
### Every month.

1. On any one day at the choice of the associate.
2. On the day the monthly exercise of a good death is made.
3. Whenever the Co-operators shall say five times the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory be to the Father* for the welfare of Christendom, and once the same prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father they may gain the indulgences of the stations in Rome, of the Portiuncula, of Jerusalem and of St. James of Compostella; these indulgences, moreover, are all applicable to the Holy Souls in Purgatory and can be gained by the Co-operators as often as the prayers are said, as long as they are in the grace of God.

### In the month of September.

1. On the feast of the Nativity of Our Lady, Sept. 8th.
2. The holy Name of Mary, Sept. 9th.
3. The exaltation of the Cross, Sept. 14th.
4. The Seven Dolours of Our Lady, Sept. 16th.
5. The Dedication of St. Michael the Archangel, Sept. 29th.
6. Whererer etc., etc.

*The complete list of indulgences and privileges may be found in the issue of January 1905 or in the Co-operators manual. It must be remembered that the present Holy Father in granting these spiritual favours laid it down as an obligation that Co-operators should never omit their daily Our Father, Hail Mary and invocation to St. Francis of Sales.*





# THE FIFTH GENERAL CONGRESS OF CO-OPERATORS.



ONLY a few years ago — three years and a month to be precise — the *Salesian Bulletin* conveyed to the Co-operators an account of the magnificent celebrations which surrounded the feast of Our heavenly Patroness in that year. The occurrences were indeed a remarkable manifestation of healthy vigour in the many developments of Don Bosco's works, and the great event, the coronation of the picture of Our Lady Help of Christians by papal command, put the highest seal on the devotion which had all along been the inspiring principle of those works.

Other accounts of great gatherings and manifestations of religious enthusiasm are now to be chronicled. The scene, however, is changed. Milan, some eighty odd miles from Turin, is near enough to it to have been within the subtle influence of Don Bosco's personality, but far enough away at the same time to form an independent centre of his work, and large enough to rival it in the development of the same. These occurrences are besides a source of encouragement, and it is inspiring to witness the great things accomplished by those who are part of the same association and giving an example of zeal and persevering effort.

## Opening of the New Church of St. Augustine.

Our Superior General, greatly consoled by the happy fulfilment of long cherished desires, went to Milan himself to assist at the opening of the new Church. He received a splendid welcome from the Co-operators and citizens, and especially from the Community and boys of the Institute at which he stayed. On the evening of Whit Sunday, being authorised by His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop, he performed the ceremony of the blessing of three bells for the new church. Speaking afterwards to the faithful present he gave a brief explanation of the rite, and hoped that the silvery notes of the bells would call many to the Divine service, until their voices were silenced by those of deeper tones from the great campanile which is some day to rise above the present construction.

The next day was appointed for the solemn inauguration. Several distinguished ecclesiastics had already arrived, among them His Grace the Archbishop of Zara and Primate of Dalmatia, and the Right Rev. Mgr. Morganti, Archbishop of Ravenna, who was the first and indefatigable promotor of the Salesian work in Milan. In the afternoon at four o'clock when the whole Institute and Church was brilliant with festive decoration, and crowded with Co-operators and friends, His Eminence Cardinal Ferrari Archbishop of Milan arrived. On the eve of Pentecost he sent to the Director of the House a letter expressing his joy at the coming event and the assurance of his unflinching support and goodwill.

After vesting, a long procession was formed to the new Church which was solemnly blessed and opened by the Archbishop. From a special enclosure the ceremony was witnessed by our Superior General, accompanied by the Economist of our pious society, by the Archbishops of Zara and Ravenna, the Provincial of the

Salesian Houses in Lombardy and other distinguished ecclesiastics. As soon as the Church was opened, the four hundred boys of the Institute and the members of the Committee took their places, and then streamed in a part of the great concourse awaiting the opening.

As soon as the sacred rite was completed the Cardinal delivered a brief discourse. He could hardly contain his joy, he said, at the



Aisle of the Church of St. Augustine at Milan.

opening of another grand sanctuary for Our Blessed Lord, and he offered thanks in the first place to Divine Providence, and then to all those who had so generously concurred in realising a common desire, and satisfying a common need, the Co-operators of both sexes; he pointed out also what a consolation it would be to them, to think that their own activity and endeavour had accomplished it. He then dwelt on the relation between St. Ambrose and St. Augustine, and the appropriateness of having the Salesian Institute dedicated to the former and the Church

to the latter, concluding his improvised allocution by imparting his pastoral blessing to the kneeling throng.

Father Trione, S. C., the Secretary to the whole Association of Co-operators, then addressed the audience, saying that the ceremony just concluded they might almost regard as the opening of the Salesian Congress, and invited all to first join in the procession which was to bear Our Blessed Lord to His new throne in the Church of St. Augustine. The Cardinal Archbishop carried the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Procession was formed by the boys of the Institute, the Salesian Committees, the Archbishops and clergy above mentioned, a vast congregation, and accompanying bands of music. It was a solemn moment, befitting in some degree the installation of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and a brilliant opening to the feasts about to follow.

As soon as the Sacred Host was deposited on the High Altar, the choir sang the classical *Tantum Ergo* of Piel and the Cardinal gave, in the Ambrosian rite, the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. At dusk the façade of the Church was brilliantly illuminated, throwing into relief its architectural beauties and forming an attraction to the whole city.

### The first Services in the New Sanctuary.

The sacred functions performed during the days of the fifth Congress of Salesian Co-operators had a solemnity and impressiveness all their own, enhanced by the presence of the Archbishops of Zara, Ravenna and Sebaste and of Our Superior General. At five o'clock the Provincial of the House of Lombardy and the first Director of the House at Milan offered the Holy Sacrifice. Mgr Cagliari, S. C., Archbishop of Sebaste, followed, and after his Mass administered the Sacrament of Confirmation; then followed the Archbishop of Ravenna and the Very Rev. Don Rua. In the evening Mgr Cagliari preached and gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

On the next evening the Archbishop of Ravenna gave a discourse on the fitness of a temple in Milan dedicated to St. Augustine. "If" he said, "there rises a temple to commemorate the conversion of the proud and violent pharisee of Tarsus into the fervent apostle of Christ, so should there rise one to the Manichean sophist



of Tagaste become the invincible defender of the Catholic Faith. The Christians of fourteen centuries always connected in thought the names of Damascus and Milan, of Paul and Augustine. Our admiration and gladness should be now at their height, seeing the erection of a church so noble and worthy of its Patron, a grand temple to the grand convert, Augustine, in this Milan of ours and in our own times.

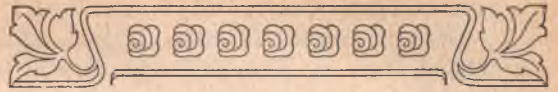
The Church indeed when completed will amply bear out the Cardinal's words and be an honour to the city and especially to the Co-operators.

### For the Departed Benefactors.

It was desired that as soon as the church had been inaugurated, a solemn Requiem should be offered for the repose of the souls of many departed benefactors and Co-operators whose past efforts had so effectually assisted to bring about this happy consummation. A catafalque had been erected and a large gathering assisted at the solemn requiem celebrated by the Provincial Fr. Saluzzo. He, better than anyone, knew how to recommend to the mercy of God the souls of many faithful helpers who had worked beside him for years, and who will now rejoice at the crowning of their labours.

### An Illustrious Visitor.

At half past ten on the following morning Her Imperial Highness Princess Laetitia of Savoy, the President of the Ladies' committees for the works of Don Bosco, arrived in her automobile at the Institute, accompanied by her maid of honour the Countess Balbis and Count Bonvicino. The royal march hailed the illustrious visitor, and the cheers of the boys were not wanting. Several of the nobility and distinguished members of the Milanese Committee had assembled to meet Her Royal Highness. Accompanied by His Grace Archbishop Cagliero and the Provincial, Fr. Saluzzo, she visited every part of the schools, and meeting in different workshops some of the little Calabrian boys she spoke to each one and showed much kindly interest in them. The Princess then visited the newly opened church from which she drove away.



## The Fifth Congress of Salesian Co-operators.

The opening of the new Church of St. Augustine had been so long looked forward to, and was considered an event of such importance that extraordinary commemorations were to be



Mgr. Morganti, Archbishop of Ravenna.

expected. The Milanese Committee rightly determined that the best means of interesting the public generally and the Co-operators in particular, would be to convene a Congress, to be as far as possible international. The idea was soon shown to be feasible, and as soon as Our Superior General had signified his assent the Congress was in process of arrangement.

Letters of participation from the highest dignitaries in the Church showed in what regard the work was held, and how widespread was the interest in the movement. No fewer than twenty-two of the Sacred College wrote to the Committee among them being Their Eminences Cardinals Rampolla, the Protector of our Society, Respighi,



the Vicar of His Holiness, Della Volpe, Vives y Tuto, Gennari, Segna, Cassetta, Tripepi and Cavicchioni, from the Cardinal Archbishops Richelmy of Turin, Svampa of Bologna, Capecelatro of Capua, Nava of Catania, Boschi of Ferrara, Prisco of Naples, Portanova of Reggio, Fischer of Cologne, Lecot of Bordeaux, Couillée of Lyons, Skrbensky of Prague, Gruscha of Vienna, and Cardinal Netto, Patriarch of Lisbon. About a hundred other Archbishops and Bishops from all parts of the world sent letters to the Congress, but the most important of all, the Brief from the Holy Father Pius X. must be given in full.

### THE BRIEF FROM THE SOVEREIGN PONTIFF.

To Our beloved son, the President of the General Congress of Salesian Co-operators — Milan.

PIUS PP. X.

*Beloved Son, health and Apostolic benediction.*

*We have learnt with great consolation that there will be held at Milan a Congress of those who glory in the illustrious title of Salesian Co-operators, with the object of promoting both the welfare of their Association and the religious and moral well-being of society. To be convinced of the sincerity of Our good wishes on this occasion you have only to call to mind Our interest in the preceding ones; and now We send a reassurance of Our continued good will towards the Salesians and Our fullest approval of the programme of discussions submitted to Us. Indeed the subjects there proposed are all of the highest import and of universal interest, such as the education of youth of whatever class, the spiritual and material well-being of the people, the care of emigrants and the advancement of the Catholic Faith amongst savage tribes. There are no topics we would more readily approve, and we congratulate the promoters of the Congress, who while they have the interests of their Pious Association primarily in view, are striving at the same time to remedy the pressing needs of our times.*

*We will therefore follow the course of the Congress with the ardent desire of seeing it accomplish great things, and We are certain that large numbers will respond to the invitation. May the Divine Assistance be with you in your deliberations, and*

*as a pledge of this, and of Our own esteem and good wishes to you and to each one of the members We give with all Our heart the Apostolic Benediction.*

*Given at St. Peters, Rome, the 22nd of May, 1906, in the third year of our Pontificate.*

PIUS X. POPE.

## THE FIRST DAY OF THE CONGRESS.

### The Morning Session.

Various halls in the Archiepiscopal palace had been arranged for the gatherings of the Congress, and the committees discussing various topics. When the first meeting had assembled, His Grace Archbishop Morganti took his place as president, being supported by the Director of the Milanese Salesian Committee and Mgr Locatelli; Professor Mauri acted as general secretary.

The first day had under consideration quite the modern side of Don Bosco's work, dealing firstly with various attempts made to alleviate the lot of those who, forced to emigrate through necessity or doing so out of a desire to better their condition, find themselves on arrival in a strange country, unknown to anyone, often ignorant alike of the language and industrial conditions; in many cases these fall rapidly into bad habits or become the prey of evil agencies. It was proposed that, with the blessing of God and of the Holy Father, an institute of priests should be created, which would take charge of the spiritual needs of emigrants during the voyage, and that arrangements be made for them to leave from those ports where the association was established.

The Festive Oratory (a name which includes Sunday and evening schools, clubs for young people combining both recreation and instruction, classes for instrumental music, etc.) was next dealt with by the Director of the Co-operators for the diocese of Faenza, who had when a boy attended the Festive Oratory and could give personal testimony to the good accomplished by it. The President, Mgr. Morganti, then urged that it be brought home more and more to the Co-operators, that they beyond all others are pledged to the practice of good works, especially on behalf of youth.

### The introduction and use of sport.

Fr. G. Garelli of Turin then discoursed on the many advantages which the various branches of sport bring to both young students and artisans. He proposed that the clubs which were now being opened in many towns for the promotion of sports and gymnastics be developed and multiplied, arranging that when the young are thus brought together the opportunities of instruction and general education be not lost sight of. Public competitions were growing in favour, and when the Sundays or Church feasts were allotted to these, the associations should see that the precept of hearing Holy Mass be observed, and a good example thus given. He recommended further that the instructive as well as the recreative character of these sports be brought into prominence.

### The Afternoon Session.

The congressists took up their task in the afternoon under the presidency of the Director of the Milanese Committee. The education of youth was the subject under debate, the chief speaker being Professor Arduino of Brescia. Considering that the social restoration according to Christian principles necessarily demanded a careful training of the growing generations, and especially of that section which is destined to provide the leaders in civil life, he laid before the Congressists several proposals; among them were:

1st. That all Salesian Co-operators make the utmost use of every means provided by the laws to vindicate the right of liberty of education, and to make school authorities respect the right of religious instruction as far as it is guaranteed by the laws of the various states.

2nd. That parents should exercise great care in the choice of schools for their children, and that they adopt every means to shield them from the teaching of unscrupulous men whose religious tenets are suspected.

The Rev. Charles Grugni of Milan very ably defended the case of the young artisan in the technical school, and as a means of promoting their welfare he pointed out what great good Co-operators can do, in providing for one or more boys or girls at the schools provided for this class.

The Secretary to the Association of Salesian

Co-operators, a well-known speaker on the works of the Congregation, laid before the Congress some practical method of aiding the Salesian Missions which are just now rapidly extending.

### The meeting of the Lady Co-operators, Patronesses of Don Bosco's works.

While the Congress was holding its afternoon session His Grace the Archbishop of Ravenna, Mgr. Cagliero, S. C., Archbishop of Sebaste, Our



**Cecil Arpesani**

Architect of the new Church of St. Augustine at Milan

Superior General the Very Rev. Don Rua, and the Provincial of the Milan Province presided at a large gathering of Lady Co-operators. The Countess Rosa di San Marco was the principal speaker. Dwelling on the fact that woman had always been the Co-operator with man in his undertakings, so had woman to be an efficacious and direct helper in the christian restoration which Pius X. had made the programme of his Pontificate. Don Bosco in calling for the aid and Co-operation of the woman followed out a natural law, and it was no great wonder

that she had corresponded so generously; the woman, endowed by nature with eminently educative powers, was keenly alive to the power of the Work of Don Bosco, and nowadays she was called to take her part and use the larger means which the progress of civilisation placed at her disposition. She observed that even among good and pious people it is often easy to find some, who look with suspicion on the cultured woman, and that they will condemn as guilty of pride, those who are striving to throw off the ties of fashion which would keep woman apart from any noble initiative.

His Grace Archbishop Morganti heartily concurred in the sentiments expressed by the noble Countess, and congratulated the lady Co-operators present, whose efforts had greatly assisted in bringing about the development of Don Bosco's work in Milan. "And indeed," he said, "your work is a grand and noble one. To be able to assist so efficaciously in the education of youth particularly of those in need, under the direction of Don Bosco and his sons, is a special grace which is not given to all, and which all are not capable of recognising. Continue then in your noble work, and let me add," said His Grace, "that I never speak to a meeting of ladies engaged in some useful undertaking, without giving them as an example the Milanese Committee."

Mgr. Cagliero confirmed the praise of the Archbishop, adding a few words of advice and encouragement.

The Very Rev. Don Rua said that he would own plainly to them that he never came to Milan without increasing his admiration for so many enterprising Co-operators and without expressing the desire that the Sons of Don Bosco would be equal to such manifestations of zeal and goodwill.

Archbishop Cagliero dismissed the meeting with his pastoral blessing.

## SECOND DAY OF THE CONGRESS.

### The Morning session.

#### Agricultural instruction. Various proposals.

Archbishop Morganti was again present at the next morning's session. It had been set apart for various topics, the first dealing with scientific agricultural training which has lately been largely developed, particularly in new

countries where the population look to the soil for their chief support. Fr. Trione ably conducted the discussion in the absence of the lawyer A. Mauri who had been prevented at the last moment from delivering his discourse on the subject. Fr. Trione dealt with the necessity of modern methods and machinery, the courses given in the technical agricultural schools, and the periodicals devoted to its interests.

As one of the chief organisers of this and former congresses, and indeed of hundreds of large meetings in many parts, Fr. Trione then passed on to the importance of the Ladies committees and the work of Lady Co-operators generally; and His Grace the Archbishop afterwards taking up the speaker's words said "That the architects were responsible for the designs of the great institutes, but the chief means for securing the carrying out of the designs was the work of the ladies' committees." The meeting answered this remark of the Archbishop with long applause, for His Grace was the founder and for many years the promoter of the Milanese Committee which had accomplished under his guidance such remarkable developments.

After some further discussion the Archbishop recommended each one to make a point of having the resolutions of the Congress carried out in his native place, and to the utmost of his power. Before separating the Congress approved by acclamation a pious proposal sent to it by the Central Committee of the *Apostolate of the Month of the Sacred Heart*. And with good reason. In fact considering:

1st. That *Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus* is eminently suited to the needs of our own times;

2nd. That one of the best means to promote it is the proper keeping of the month of the Sacred Heart;

3rd. That the work of the Salesian Co-operators on behalf of the young, being especially dear to the Sacred Heart;

4th. And that the Fifth Congress of Co-operators was convened in the month of June;

The Congress expresses the hope that all the members of the Association in whatever part of the world, assist the work of the *Apostolate of the Month of the Sacred Heart*, so that this pious exercise may become everywhere known, and universally practised.

(To be continued)



## Matto Grosso

The two Colonies amongst the Coroados.

(The Provincial Fr. Antonio Malan's report.)

### III.

Through the forests of Upper Araguaya

(Continued).

**Y**ou can now understand, Rev. Father, that our brief sojourn amongst the good people of Macedina was a time full of graces and blessings. They implored us to visit them at least once a year, promising to erect a fine Chapel, where the religious functions might be suitably performed.

**A terrible tribe — Departure — Perilous moments — Scene of a massacre.**

About eight or ten leagues from this centre is living a large band of Indians who have been frightened away by the military operations of the soldiers who were sent to reduce to order the authors of the horrible murders which occurred before the foundation of our Colony of the S. Heart. The providential foundation of our Colony of the Immaculate Conception will be of great assistance in preventing the recurrence of such disorders. May the Immaculate Virgin, *Mater boni consilii*, extend her sceptre over these ancient forests, and fill the souls of the natives with the spirit of meekness and peace! (1).

We are in complete ignorance of the total number of the Indians. When crossing the glistening sands of the Upper Araguaya and

Diamantino, they carefully obliterate their foot prints, so as to remain unnoticed by the colonists. To the numerous questions about their tribe, they always give evasive answers; and it is to be remarked that they have the habit of stating their numbers as considerably less than the reality by way of securing themselves against a sudden attack. Fr. Balzola and I wished to pay them a visit, to let them know that at twenty leagues from their settlement there was a house, where they would receive a fatherly welcome and where they would be safe from every danger. But Major Cicero and all the others, knowing the Indians' treacherous disposition, endeavoured to dissuade us, saying that we might go protected by a select band of soldiers, or perhaps with a large party of civilized Indians. As we could not secure these conditions, we listened to the dictates of prudence, resolving to send to their encampment some Indians from the Colony of the S. Heart, to convey to them our good wishes with an invitation to visit the new Colony, requiring them to let us know the impression produced by our invitation and the dispositions of the Indians. It is true that they are on very good terms with us, but the unanimity with which they uphold the teaching of their *Bari*, who assumes he is always in communication with *Bope* (the evil spirit of the tribe) and the prohibition to speak of what has been revealed placing much reliance on their answers, more especially with regard to their dwelling place and their numbers. Anyhow we hope to obtain some information, from which we may draw some conclusions. May God give us His blessing and the grace that all these souls gathering round our missionaries, may very soon begin to feel the beneficial influence of our holy religion!

On the 25th after celebrating Mass and partaking of an excellent breakfast, prepared for us by the family of Signor Cicero, who, as I said before, was most kind and generous during the whole of our stay, we set off, amidst cordial farewells. We took a large boat of native design, kindly presented to us by the same Major Cicero on our way to Registro, thirty or more leagues distant, along the course of the river. The brilliant rays of the sun reflected by the water hurt our eyes, but what

(1) This band has already removed to the Colony of the Immaculate Conception.

really made us anxious were the rapids and falls of the river in which it seemed as if our frail bark must come to pieces. How many involuntary cries issued from our mouth! The most dangerous spot was that *Oro fino*, so called from the large quantity of gold found there. My faithful companion, Pius, in passing this spot seemed a prey to the most serious anxiety, his face changed colour every moment showing his trouble and fears. Hardly was the danger past when breathing forth a great sigh as if freed from a heavy load: "Thanks be to God," he exclaimed, "that is over.... but my courage had grown very small. In truth this rapid was very alarming. The impetuous current dashed itself against a pile of rocks rising above it like a menacing crown, whilst at one side was a dark hole where the waters formed an awe-inspiring whirlpool. You can imagine, what were our feelings when passing this dangerous spot in a miserable boat, so incapable of withstanding the fury of the rapids! Gabet and I tried to be brave, but fear was in the hearts of all...

In the afternoon we reached the estancia of Signor Marcos. Here we took some refreshment and made up the arrears of sleep lost during the two previous nights spent on the shores of the Araguaya like so many *tatus* (1) in order to shelter ourselves from the hurricanes which tear through these forests with the noise of thunder.

At the meeting of the Barreiro with the Araguaya, the boatmen pointed out to us the site of a native encampment where four years ago the entire households of Signor Ignazio and Signor Clarimondo, living in this neighbourhood, were massacred. I have already sent you a description of this terrible tragedy in the account of my first journey through the desert. This settlement has now disappeared. A band of men, in well-merited wrath, destroyed it completely. Eye-witnesses have told me that by the first gunshots none of the Indians were hit, but all dispersed; some fled towards the forest, others hastened to the river. But at the later shots, which were unexpected, many fell to the ground writhing in agony. Of this sad episode in the history of the forest two instances were related. An old man, Captain *Lulu*, now living in our Colony of the Sacred Heart, to

escape death, swam more than 500 yards under water in about ten or twelve minutes, rising to the surface safe and sound far from the scene of disaster. A poor Indian woman, at the ominous whistling of the bullets, fled in terror to the forest, abandoning in her agitation an infant, probably a little girl... but on realizing her forgetfulness, she retraced her steps and sought her infant whilst the fusillade was going on; she found it and pressing it to her bosom endeavoured to flee with her treasure in her arms; but a ball whistling through the air pierced the unhappy mother, stretching her on the ground. A few minutes later the innocent child, found alive, was cut to pieces by the civilized band!

But, thanks be to God, these tragedies have, disappeared since the Sons of Don Bosco took up their abode in these unfortunate countries; and such things will not happen again in these forests through which the bright rays of the Cross are beginning to shine!

#### At Registro—The Feast of SS. Peter and Paul—On the river again.

On the 28th we set off from the hospitable dwelling of Signor Marcos, who had heaped favours and kindness upon us, embarking once more on our famous boat and, sooner than we expected, found ourselves at our desired goal, the settlement of Registro.

It was the eve of the Holy Apostles SS. Peter and Paul a feast kept with special devotion in this rising town, which at once assumed a more solemn aspect from the presence of God's ministers. The pious inhabitants looked upon our arrival as a special blessing from heaven. At once, the bells rang out a festive peal, calling to the religious service all the inhabitants who, in their joy at having two priests in their midst sang hymns to SS. Peter and Paul, not forgetting the hymn in honour of St John Baptist whose Feast they had been unable to keep on the 24th by assisting at Mass. The traditional public recitation of night prayers was not omitted, lasting till nearly nine o'clock. Taking advantage of these good dispositions and of the large assembly I concluded the pious exercises with a suitable discourse to which all listened devoutly. The following day we heard the confessions of all who wished to avail themselves of our ministry and I celebrated the Mass at which Holy Communion was given. Our good friend, Major Barboza gave us hospitality. Here we procured another boat called a *batelam* which we loaded with all kinds of food for our new Colony.

In the early morning of the 30th after saying Mass and enjoying an excellent breakfast

(1) The *Tatù*, an animal found in the Brazilian forests, is the subject of the Indian funeral songs. The head, back and tail are covered with a bony shell in several layers joined together; short legs, small and pointed head, eyes at the side, small mouth, narrow tongue. It belongs to the edentate family and although of the genus ant-eater, it eats insects and worms, and also vegetables.

prepared for us by the good family of Signor Marcos, we once more entered our canoe which did not offer much security for the thirty-three terrible rapids we must pass in order to reach our Colony of the Immaculate Conception.

The sun was scorching and seemed as if it would set the forest on fire. We usually spent the night on the river bank when it was possible, though we had to brave the heavy dews, resembling rain. Many times our hammocks were suspended from the branches of leafy trees on the banks of the river. On the ground were to be seen the foot-prints of tapirs, water-hogs, *tatus* and the formidable ounce (american tiger). Frequently we were aroused by the roaring of these fierce inhabitants of the forest who know not the law of kindness or the bond of friendship. The nervous beating of the heart kept us awake sometimes the greater part of the night. Our good Pius would sometimes dilate during the day on the fantastic possibilities of the previous night during which he had experienced continual disturbance.... There were also nights during which tiresome insects dancing in the air we breathed, would entertain us with their monotonous humming during the hours given to our needful rest. Another of the plagues we had to endure during our journey was the attacks of the ant called *carregadora*, much larger than the common sort, which is strong enough to destroy any object in a minute. Even now I remember with annoyance the attack they made one rainy night on the outer covering which protects one from the weather when lying in a hammock, a fine waterproof covering which I had placed over the net like a tent. I found it all in ribbons. Such work might have amused one who had means to purchase another; not so for a missionary. The characteristic of the ant is to work, but their object is not progress and utility like ours; their work frequently serves only to exercise a man's patience, destroying what he has made. This instinct implanted in their creation they follow scrupulously and without any human respect !... And besides these the *mosquitos*, and other tribes never wearied in tormenting us each after their kind....

We reached the above mentioned rapids, and were obliged to jump into the water, unload the boat and carry it beyond the falls with our shoulders laden with the contents of the *batelan*. Whilst the boatmen were completing the transport of our goods and chattels, I with my two companions approached the awe-inspiring woods, walking on the sands covered with fresh foot-prints of the tapir and the ounce. In addition from the leaves of the trees showers of small

insects fell upon us which gave us occupation for the rest of the day hunting for them and extracting them from the skin, from which they do not usually part without drawing much blood, leaving wounds of which I still bear the scars. ... and yet several months have elapsed since then !

**Mass in the forest— In search of food —  
At the new Colony — Arrival of the  
Indians — The Missionary's disappoint-  
ment — Touching appeal.**

On the beautiful Feast of Our Lady's Visitation (July 2nd) I celebrated on an altar *sui*



**BOLIVIA - Mount Sorata (4832 metres high)**

*(The highest point of the way).*

*generis* formed by a cloth stretched between two trees, having for chandeliers two stakes planted in the ground and adorned with the graceful plumes of the palm tree. Facing me were the shining sands of the shore, kissed by the limpid waters of the river. It was truly a picturesque Chapel in this lonely spot, redolent with the perfumes of flowers, recalling the first Mass celebrated in this land of Brazil, so rich in vegetation, by their Portuguese discoverer Cabral.

Many of the scenes we admire in these desert places would be worthy of the pen of the immortal Chateaubriand, who depicted in such lively colours the magic beauty of the American forests. Had I but the pen of the great Brazilian novelist Alencar, who in his *Iracena* has a variety of new images and sentiments drawn from natural features unknown to the old world;

I could then enliven my description with more brilliant colouring.

From the 5th July we were very short of meat, the only food on these journeys. So we had to set to work to find food. From time to time Pius and Gabet with gun in hand, without leaving the boat shot pigeons, water-hogs and other animals which furnished us with good food. One day at fifty yards distant from our boat a powerful *anta* was seen crossing the river; it fell at once pierced by the bullets from our rifles. We gladly halted to divide and prepare the meat, taking with us what we could carry. Certainly it was not very tender, but a good appetite supplied all deficiencies. The skin, valuable on account of its thickness of over an inch and which is most useful for harness was all torn and damaged by the claws of the ounce with which it must have had a fight. The remains of the poor *anta* which our boat could not contain were thrown into the water as food for the fish.

As we advanced the rapids became more and more dangerous. One of these attained a sad notoriety from an accident four years ago to a canoe containing six men clad only in nature's vesture so as to be more free in case of danger. Suddenly the canoe went to pieces and sank beneath the waters with all their food, clothing and weapons; only a water-proof bed-cover floating on the water was saved. This is a fatal spot for travellers on account of the boiling waterfall and the rushing current along side, which engulfs everything even objects of large size. We passed happily thanks to Our Lord and His Immaculate Mother.

Towards nightfall of the 6th we had the consolation of beholding the Colony of the Immaculate Conception, scarcely a fortnight old, which smiled upon us from the midst of the variegated verdure. Rich palm trees form a cradle round it, charming us with the aromatic perfumes of the luxuriant vegetation watered by the river *Garca*.

How much has been done in a short space of time and with such a small staff. We found two *ranchos*, constructed of stakes fixed in the ground, roofed with the large leaves, all the work of the Indians under the direction of our missionaries, after the model of the first *ranchito* which now serves as a chapel. Several roads have already been made leading to the river, the wood and to other parts. A large space has been cleared in the bush, where we hope soon to see the harvests ripening with which Divine Providence will feed so many applicants. The number of Indians has been kept down, there are only seven, for absolute necessities being de-

ficient, it was humanly speaking impossible to receive a larger number of savages who in a short time destroy whatever is given to them.

On beholding the realization of the providential foundation of this Colony, so full of promise for the future, I felt my heart filled with sweet and holy emotions! But... a slight cloud obscures this beautiful prospect I became a prey to anxiety on seeing the approach of two *Bari* (Miguel and Toto) men of authority in their tribe encamped at present near *Alto Garcias*, twenty-five miles further north. They had left their subjects, about fifty in number some distance off and came alone to ask in the name of all that we should receive them in the Colony of the *Immaculate Conception* (1). What could be done in these critical circumstances? The supplies sent from Europe had not yet arrived, and there were no means of providing for the wants of these poor savages. In our state of destitution with heartfelt regret we were obliged to answer "No" for the present, explaining the cause of our temporary refusal. To prevent their thinking ill of us, to which they are prone, I assigned them a place where they might encamp, very near our Colony: and at the same time I promised to lend them the implements necessary for field culture, and to provide them with the seed they might require. Finally I promised them that on the arrival of the waggons with clothes and implements we would give them a share, and that by the month of January at the latest we should receive them all as by that time we hoped to have sufficient food. With this prospect they seemed pacified though still somewhat distrustful. The following day when passing the above-mentioned station, I saw all that assemblage of Indians. What touched me most was their precarious condition. Poor children of the forest! Without the light of the Gospel and of civilization they seem to have no higher object than that of leading a wandering, animal existence. They do not live, they vegetate, knowing nothing of their soul, the image and likeness of God, capable of perfection and gifted with the most sublime powers. Buried in their dense forests they satisfy their hunger with the flesh of the wild animals slain by their arrows, without garments to cover their nakedness and protect them from the inclemency of the weather. What a truly miserable life, deserving of pity!...

May God grant that over these vast forests the beneficent light of Religion which ennobles,

(1) To the number of ninety they afterwards arrived on the 29th October at the Colony of the Immaculate Conception and were received on the 7th November in the Colony of the S. Heart.



and that of civilisation which sweetens life, may speedily shine in all their splendour! This is the object of our labours, but their success will doubtless depend on the efficacious support of that company of generous souls, now scattered over the world, that is to say, on the Salesian Co-operators of Don Bosco. The alms poured out by their pious hand are a consoling balm to the soul of the Missionary in his trials; they are as a ray of light penetrating the soul of these poor savages, enlightening, improving and withdrawing them from their brutal habits; they are, in fine, the indispensable means for the regeneration of the degraded inhabitants of these woods. Heaven will reward superabundantly all who contribute, according to their means, to the support of this important work by bestowing on them a happiness which, beginning in time, will last for eternity.

I will now conclude the account of my journey through the forests inhabited by the savages of this State, desiring to be recommended to the prayers of our Superiors who are with you. Do you, Rev. Father, give a cordial blessing to these two promising Missions of Matto Grosso, and particularly to

Your humble and affectionate Son in J.C.

ANTONIO MALAN  
(Salesian Missionary).

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## Bolivia

### An expedition to the Inland Territory of the Colonies.

(Letter from Father C. Santinelli, Salesian Missionary).

Very Rev. Father,

Having to spend two days in La Paz on my return from the House at Sucre before setting out for Cuzco, I take advantage of the delay to send you a short account of our excursion to the Beni. I know that Fr. Reyneri has already described our journey from this city to Mapiri; so I will confine myself to a brief narrative of the remainder.

#### Kindness of the Captain—Sad memories —At Carura.

The morning after the serious accidents which endangered the life of Fr. Reyneri, having scarcely recovered from the shock, I decided to resume the Mission confided to me by you and by the local Government. As the symptoms of

tertian fever, very common in these parts and which usually lasts for months, had already begun to show themselves in Fr. Reyneri, I determined to continue my journey alone, reflecting that as so many for sordid interests expose themselves to a thousand dangers, suffer many trials and yet for the sake of gain will not turn back, so being engaged in seeking the salvation of souls, an object a thousandfold more glorious, to turn back would be cowardice on my part. And if God had demanded the sacrifice of our lives, ought we not to have been ready?

On the 25th August, therefore, I started from the port of Mapiri on a *Callapo* laden with goods



From La Paz to Beni (BOLIVIA)

(The ascent of the Sorata).

for San Buenaventura. Having made known my intentions to one of the proprietors of the transport Company, who was himself travelling with the boatmen in charge of the transport boats, I pointed out to him that I was now destitute, having no longer any provisions, blankets, or clothing, nor even the money to pay for my journey. This did not hinder the good man from accepting me as a passenger indeed he manifested a great interest in this expedition, telling me that he had received orders from General Pando to take me in safety to my destination.

We set off therefore about half past seven on the 25th August, without being seen by anyone, for owing to the separation from my confrère or perhaps the fear of what might happen I could scarcely conceal my emotion. Signor Guzman the above mentioned proprietor sat beside me on the *callapo* and was unceasing

in his kindly solicitude... but, to tell the truth every slight shock filled me with fear of some fresh disaster. So you may imagine what were my feelings when after two or more hours travelling I beheld once more the scene of the wreck, called *Salgebra*. I recognized it from afar, and though I was not afraid of falling again into the water, my imagination pictured once more the previous accident with all its circumstances. I seemed to behold again the capsizing of the boat, the whirlpool which dragged down Fr. Reyneri; I heard the shouts of the captain telling me to lay hold of the *callapo*. Then I remembered how, finding one of the boatmen under water, I got on the top of the capsized boat, from which I was terrified to see Fr. Reyneri sinking. I shouted and implored of the captain to save him, invoking Mary Help of Christians with the greatest confidence. And the captain, searching for him, held out an oar by which he was drawn to the *callapo* and rescued. It would be impossible to describe our feelings, on beholding our miraculous escape....

Whilst my imagination was depicting once more that dreadful scene, the boatmen guided the *callapo* safely down the rapids, so that in the twinkling of an eye we were far from the spot; but I remained absorbed in the same recollections until, towards evening we reached the india-rubber factory at *Carura*, belonging to Signor Goytia. The administrator, named Bolati, an Italian and a great friend of Signor Guzman, told me he was at Arequipa in 1806, the year of the foundation of that house, and that he was a great friend of the Salesians. He gave us a good supper and promised, on my return, to take me in his boat as far as *Charopampa*, near Port Mapiri.

#### Along the Mapiri — Lecos and Napos Indians — Their customs — Departure — At Wito Ponte.

After a pleasant chat, we left to spend the night in a small house belonging to the boatmen not far off. Thus I had an opportunity of seeing the sort of people inhabiting these regions. Some are *Indians*; those who live on the banks of the *Mapiri* are called *Lecos* and further on they are called *Napos*; they are of well defined types, with a dialect of their own, but they understand and speak some Spanish. Very lively and lovers of cleanliness, they appear intelligent and capable of a good education. Strong and courageous, they encounter any danger calmly and even joyfully. The women, also, are fond of work; they are clothed in a kind of tunic

which covers them from the neck to the feet called by them *tipoi*. On feast days they adorn themselves with collars made of coral and seeds.

As to religion they are not all on the same plane. Those converted by and belonging to the Franciscan Missions, such as those of S. Ann, Covendo, Tumupasa, etc. remain fervent Christians, docile and respectful to the priest. The others living in the *india-rubber* forests, either owing to their isolation, or through the use of spirituous liquors are very irreligious. Even on the banks of the river one meets those who have scarcely any notion of religion; nevertheless they have great respect for baptism and when a priest is passing that way they will also receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Matrimony. But through ignorance of religion they mingle profane songs, dances etc. with the celebration of their Feasts.

Their huts, made of a kind of cane called *charo*, and roofed with palm-branches are scattered along the river, frequently at great distances from each other. For their sustenance they cultivate plantains and yuca, they rear poultry, and an indispensable object, though one of luxury is often found in their huts the sewing machine. The men hunt and fish; in addition the greater number have a contract with the carrying Company on the river. Generally they owe their employers a good sum and this it is that keeps them at their work as a duty of justice; if it were not so, disregarding their contract they would disappear for the hunting or fishing. Nevertheless, especially on festal occasions, a boatman will often vanish, causing the stoppage of the *callapo*, and the employer will have to go in search of the fugitive or resign himself to the delay. We ourselves, on reaching *Culebra*, where we passed the night had the same experience on the following morning. The boatmen had struck work, or rather had vanished, so that an employee of Guzman and Co., an educated man, was obliged to go with Signor Guzman in search of our friends. The festival of the 8th September was approaching which is here kept with much solemnity, and our good boatmen did not wish to go to the next stopping place on account of the difficulty of getting back in time for the feast. Meanwhile it was eight a'clock in the morning and nothing was ready for the resumption of our journey... They had to be extracted from their houses one by one.

At last we resumed our way. The departure of several *callapos* is a beautiful and touching sight. At such a moment there is always a large crowd on the river bank. The old people, the wives and children bid their dear ones an

affectionate farewell. The wives, in a kind of bag called *Mari*, bring what is necessary for their husbands; clothes, weapons for the chase etc. etc. At this moment the enthusiasm of the boatmen is redoubled, they fire several shots, saluting their dear ones left behind; seizing their oars they begin to row vigorously, whilst the crowd on the shore follows them with tearful eyes.

About eleven o'clock in the morning of the 26th we reached *Wito Ponte*, were the Company *Guzman Schmith* have the chief Agency.

The other members, residing here, received us with great cordiality preparing for us a repast. Opposite in the small village of *Guanay*, with about 500 inhabitants, where other Companies for the transport of merchandise are established. The inhabitants live by fishing and hunting and on their wages as boatmen to the above Companies.

The village of *Guanay* was founded in 1805 by Father Michael Dieguez; it is situated in the 15th degree of latitude and the 67th degree of longitude. The river on which we have been travelling has many names. At the beginning it is called *Mapiri*, and is formed by the streams *Sorata*, *Camata*, *Consata*, *Stilique* and *Ateu*. Lower down beginning with *Guanay*, a day's journey by boat descending, and four days ascending the stream, it takes the name of *Kaka* or *Guanay*, keeping the same as far as *Port Pando*; at the confluence of the river *La Paz* with the *Guanay* it takes the name of *Rio Beni*. At *Guanay* the volume of water is considerably increased, being joined by the three affluents.

But to return to *Wito Ponte*. Signor *Guzman* having arranged every thing for our departure towards six o'clock in the evening we lay down for a while on the bank under one tent.

As soon as the boatmen landed they went in search of wood to prepare supper; a few moments later they were to be seen in groups around the cooking pot preparing the soup with some dried meat and the indispensable baked *platanos*. Two were at Signor *Guzman's* service to prepare and arrange the *toldeo*. They appeared to me well-trained, industrious, docile and attached to their employers.

In this uninhabited region there is a custom which we call *Christian charity*; whenever the boatmen have no meat or plantains of their own, they are made welcome to that of the others. Signor *Guzman* himself never takes a meal without seeing that his attendants have enough for themselves.

This good man, takes medicines with him when travelling and dispenses them to the fa-

milies and children: for when staying at a settlement and hospitably supplied by the owners with meat, coffee, etc. it would be an insult to offer them money; and this reciprocal charity is providential in these parts where food is so scarce.

That is however by the way. Under a tent I spent the night with the others. On the 27th we continued our journey and reached a factory, belonging to a large india-rubber Company of Chicago. The administrator, as in other places, gave us coffee and provisions. Here I met Rev. F. Rodriguez Merzedario, parish priest of *Sorata*, who was returning on horseback from



Indians of Rio Beni — COLOMBIA.

an expedition to *Reyes* on the *Beni*, about seven or eight leagues from our next halting place. He was on Mission, baptizing, confirming, administering the Sacrament of Matrimony, especially along the river *Mapiri*, where a priest is seldom seen. On my return. I left him in *Guanay*, where he had given a Novena in preparation for the feast of the 8th September, which the inhabitants keep with great solemnity.

**Well founded fear — Calm restored — A short description of the flora and fauna of these regions.**

The 27th was a date never to be forgotten. It was on that day we had to pass the most dangerous places on the *Mapiri*. The boatmen themselves warn the passengers of the impending dangers, pointing out several places on the river where the risks are greatest.

Towards mid-day we approached the worst parts. At all these places are to be seen gigantic rocks against which the torrent dashes itself, and foaming whirlpools which draw the boats in. Signor Guzman, being accustomed to these dangers, whilst he tried to encourage me, recounted the stories of wrecks, the loss of merchandise, the victims engulfed etc. Even he feared for his callapos, lest they should be swamped and his goods be lost. You may imagine what were my feelings on hearing these tales not having yet recovered from the accident at *Salgebra*.... I saw clearly this was the moment in which to solicit a special favour from Mary Help of Christians. In fact the water thundering against the rocks and the efforts of the boatmen in guiding the *callapo*, the foaming waters which sometimes covered the boats, caused me some terrible moments; but trust in God and complete resignation to Divine Providence sustained me. But, even so, I doubt if I have ever spent moments of greater anguish.

Finally, with God's help, having landed safely on the river's bank we reckoned up the boats and the baggage; nothing was missing. All, however, remarked that I was much agitated; for in those moments I suffered again from the palpitation which had attacked me in 1896, when exiled from Ecuador and during the fire at Guayaquil. Having taken some rest and being assured that for the remainder of the journey there was no danger, I pursued my way in peace and tranquillity, cheered by the joyous chatter of the boatmen and the good companionship of Signor Guzman.

As previously stated the Mapiri joining the river La Paz forms the great *Río Beni* over one hundred yards in width, a peaceful stream, navigable for steamers. On the 28th and 29th we journeyed down it in order to reach S.Buena-ventura. Apart from a few incidents, this part of the journey was pleasant not only from the smoothness of the water but from the wonders of nature which delight the eye of the traveller. I can give you no idea of the effect produced on me by the songs of a thousand birds of various forms and colours, in the midst of that tropical vegetation. This sight aroused within me more lively sentiments of faith in God, of gratitude and love; and from my heart burst forth a song of praise to Divine Providence, recognizing the grandeur, omnipotence goodness and wisdom of God manifested in His creatures!

What an indescribable profusion! Even a cursory glance over the vast eastern region of the Andes is sufficient to give an idea of the wealth of vegetation clothing these favoured

lands; for the extensive zone of the *Beni*, belonging to the Republic of Bolivia, is not inferior to the other zones belonging to Peru, Ecuador, the Argentine Republic and Brazil. Besides what I have seen with my own eyes I have collected much information on the flora relating to a great variety of plants of economic and commercial importance.

Amongst these the most noteworthy is the Cedar, well known for its uses and which is found every where in these parts; it is the most lofty amongst the trees. There are a great number of trees almost equally valuable, of white, black or yellow wood, excellent for all kinds of furniture. There is a *laurel* of three different kinds, white, yellow and coffee-coloured; a species of palm called *charo* which is employed in fumigating the india-rubber and for the trellis work of houses, the leaves being used for thatching; the fruit furnishes a kind of milk used as food by the natives; the twigs make excellent brooms, and of the roots combs are made. Amongst many others the *palo santo* made a great impression on me: it is a fine tall tree with medium sized leaves, the trunk is inhabited by legions of ants to such a degree that it cannot live without the ants, nor these without the tree. The ants are not to be seen on the outside, but as soon as the tree is touched they come out in immense numbers from underneath the bark. But above all others, on account of its importance, the india-rubber tree must be named, as it renders these immense forests so valuable. I collected the most detailed information relative to this trade, on the method of collecting the rubber, and on the manners and customs of the natives engaged in this work.

What a number of medicinal and useful plants are to be formed in these parts! General Pando told me that in a few months and without much trouble he collected eighty different kinds to send to the United States' Government, and that, amongst these, many were medicinal herbs.

If from the trees, or the vegetable kingdom, we pass to the animal kingdom, what new beauties may not one find in the water, the air and on land. There are fish of the finest quality and of large size. There is also a kind of river tortoise which lays its large eggs in the sand of the shore and these are delicious.

As to the birds I may say there are few countries possessing so great a variety. How many parrots with their never-ending chatter, crows, magpies, peacocks, and brilliantly coloured birds of paradise! This land seems in reality an earthly paradise. Noteworthy and much sought after by sportsmen is the *Caloma*,

which resembles our partridge, the *dios dará* (God will give) a bird with a long beak, black, with a white, yellow and red crest, most beautiful, which I saw several times on the journey. There is the *amarista*, the size of a thrush, yellow and black which imitates the barking of a dog; whilst there are other birds which imitate the whistle of a train, and others again which break the silence of the night like sentinels on the watch.

Amongst the quadrupeds I may mention the *anta*, much sought after, of the size of an ass, in other places called *Tapir* and the wood hog, the colour of mud, with flexible skin; herds of wild

boars also roam the woods. On our way back the boatmen, at times halted for the whole day to hunt on the mountains, killing some of the animals above-named and also monkeys, the flesh of which is excellent in these parts. Deer, tigers, hares, rabbits, bears, amongst which is numbered the ant-eater; are numerous. As in the water, so also on the land one finds tortoises. The insects are too numerous to mention. I will conclude by mentioning among the reptiles a kind of crocodile or *caiman* worthy to be the subject of a snapshot... But I must pass over in silence many other wonders seen in this greatly favoured land.

(To be continued).



LONDON. The Salesian School. Battersea.

A period of unrest usually precedes the long vacation of the year. The final month brings a surfeit of exciting events, partly pleasureable, partly causing juvenile anxiety; the pent up knowledge of the long months of study shows its usefulness at the time of the examination, for July is pre-eminently the month of examinations; these are succeeded by the crowning event of the prizes, and these again by the long farewells of the breaking up. To many a boy it is a period of satisfaction and even of triumph, to others of disappointment; but very few there are who do not welcome July, even if only for the changes it brings with it.

A large percentage of the boys of the Salesian School at Battersea, who had attained the ages required, were presented for the public examinations mentioned in their syllabus or prospectus. It would be difficult of course to pronounce on the results beforehand with any degree of cer-

tainty, but in most cases hopes run high. The boys are informed of the results as soon as the school receives them from the centres, which in some cases is not till the middle of August.

St. Aloysius' day at the School.

The celebration of the feast of the boys' Patron Saint had been postponed for a week or two chiefly in order to secure fine weather for an outdoor procession. It was accordingly fixed for Sunday July 15th. At the community Mass, celebrated by the Very Rev. Fr. Provincial, four of the boys made their First Communion. In the evening at half-past-five a solemn procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place round the lawn facing the house, on which an altar had been erected for the Benediction. The procession being terminated, a young member or future member of the sodality of St. Aloysius in cassock and surplice and biretta gave the panegyric of the Saint to the whole school

gathered around on the grass. This is always one of the principal features of the day's celebration and much interest naturally centres round the youthful orator. Of course the object in view is to lead the boys to become imitators of the virtues of the young saint, and the ceremony is certainly not without its salutary impressions on the boyish hearts. The school band afterwards gave some select renderings from its noted repertoire.

London. The Salesian School. — The Prize Distribution. Friday. July 20th.

A grand instrumental concert on the lawn in front of the school in the evening of the 19th had ushered in the Prize-giving, which had been fixed for the following evening, as all the examinations were not yet completed. Accordingly by five o'clock on the 19th everybody was in his place in the large study-hall, and many were eyeing with a singular mixture of boyish curiosity and anxiety a large table laden with rewards in the shape of books, medals and certificates. A loud clapping soon announced the entrance of the Very Rev. Fr. Provincial who was accompanied to his place by the strains of the orchestra.

An enjoyable programme of classical music well rendered by the school choir, and of recitations from some of the pupils was skilfully interwoven with the distribution of prizes to the upper and lower forms. We have only space here to give the names of those who were awarded First Prizes. Form VI., Anthony Fuest and Leo Grogan. Form V., Alfred Martin and Maurice Hanvey. Form IV., Louis Fraulo. Form III., Clement Denny and John Reddy. Form II., George Dunn and Edward Lloyd. Form I., Reginald Hall.

The distribution was followed by the reading of the Report received from the Diocesan Inspector which is given below, and the certificates for religious knowledge sent by him were then given out. When the applause had ceased the Very Rev. Fr. Provincial rose to give his farewell address to the pupils. Among other things the Rev. Principal remarked that he was glad to be able to say that: "Year by year there has been a steady advancement in the educational course given to the boys of this school. Our public successes are a witness to its progress, and it may well be said that our school may be favourably compared with any other school of its kind in the United Kingdom. This is mainly due to the untiring energy of the teachers, who have succeeded in enkindling in

their boys a love for study and I am perfectly sure this high standard of efficiency will be maintained in the future." He then gave the boys some advice for the vacation time and wished them a most enjoyable holiday. The applause which followed was drowned by the strains of the band which gave an appropriate finale terminated by the national anthem.

Particulars of the new term will be sent with the boy's reports.

The Programme:

Part I.

- Opening Chorus (S.A.T.B.) - "With Full voiced Choir" Mozart.
- Selection from Gounod's "Redemption."
- A Junior recitation.
- Selection, by the band.
- Distribution of Prizes to the Juniors.
- Chorus (S.A.T.B.) "By Babylon's Wave" (Psalm 137) *Paraphrased* by Henry Farnie. *Composed* by Ch. Gounod.
- Reading of the Report from the Diocesan Inspector.
- Distribution of the Certificates from His Lordship the Bishop.
- Selection by the band.

Part II.

- Recitation from Macaulay's "Lays of Ancient Rome"
- Chorus, Selection from "Rossini".
- Distribution of Prizes to the Seniors.
- An Address to the Very Rev. Fr. Provincial, the Superior and the Masters.
- Speech by the Very Rev. Fr. Provincial.
- Grand finale by the band.
- God Save the King.

The Religious Examination.

The religious inspector for the Diocese of Southwark makes an annual inspection of the school. This year it was held in the early part of June and for the greater part of the day the examiner was busy with the various forms. When leaving in the afternoon he expressed his satisfaction in the highest terms and the report which he sent on afterwards, though brief, is indicative of a high standard of knowledge.

**Copy of the Religious Inspector's Report**

**The whole of this school passed an excellent examination.**

(Signed) F. G. WILDERSPIN  
*Diocesan Inspector.*

July 17th, 1906.

✠ PETER, Bishop of Southwark.

His Lordship the Bishop at the Novitiate, Burwash, Sussex.

The many and arduous labours of the Right Rev. Dr. Amigo, Bishop of Southwark, do not permit him to make frequent visits to the country districts of his large diocese. His episcopal duties, however, took him, during the first part of the month of July, into the vicinity

ship expressed entire satisfaction with all that he had seen, and also his pleasure at being able to stay for a short time among the younger sons of Don Bosco.

On the following morning the Community received Holy Communion from the Bishop who celebrated Holy Mass for them, and after a brief interval he left the solitude to fulfil his many calls in the metropolis.



Students of the Salesian Institute of St. Ambrose, Milano (scholastic year 1905-1906).

of the novitiate House of the Salesians at Burwash, Sussex, and it was natural for him to signify his intention of visiting it, especially as it has a public church attached, and of staying a night with the Community.

Accordingly, in the afternoon of July 12th, His Lordship's carriage arrived at the gate of the novitiate. The Superiors, professed and novices were waiting to receive him and each one was introduced to His Lordship. The first part of the evening was fully occupied with the Episcopal visitation, the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and the reception of the parishioners by the Bishop immediately after. Talking later on with the Community His Lord-

The Exhibition and its sequel.

Subsequent to the visit of Our Superior General to Malta an exhibition of youthful work was arranged in the Institute, chiefly at the wish of several supporters of the work. Many visitors took occasion to view the exhibits and were lavish in its praises. But eulogiums from a higher quarter, and therefore more reliable, were forthcoming from the Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce of Malta, and it expressed its intention of sending a committee to make a more minute examination of the work. This it did a few days after with the result that, in the words of the President; "As a sign of acknowledgment of their admiration

of the Salesian Institution and of the work done and exhibited, the Committee have awarded a Certificate to the School and a sum of money to be expended as the Rector should think fit." At the conclusion of his speech, says the *Malta Herald*, Dr. Vella handed to the Rector a certificate in ornamental writing on the Society's artistically designed form, and a cheque, the handsome donation of the Society. The Rev.. Fr. O'Grady expressed his appreciation in a very appropriate speech and some music closed the afternoon's programme.

#### East Hill. Wandsworth.

Before this issue is in the hands of readers, it is very probable that the date will have already been fixed for the opening of the new church at East Hill, the building of which has for many months absorbed the interest and energy of the Salesian Priests in charge. The elaborate scheme of decoration is still in process, but quite enough is already done to sanction the statement that the interior will be something of a masterpiece, and that as far as decoration goes, few if any of the London churches can compare with it.

Under the presidency of Fr. Hawarden S. C. the building committee lately arranged to have another garden-party in aid of the building fund. It was held on the two evenings July 12th and 14th, and being well attended, we are confident that it met with the success the Rector hoped for. A heavy debt will remain on the church after its opening, but whether it will be a lingering one or not, depends on the generosity of Co-operators. Contributions from any quarter will be gratefully acknowledged by the Rev. Rector, c6 North Side, Wandsworth Common, S. W.

#### Rome. An audience.

Not many colleges have the good fortune of being able to secure the privilege of an audience with the Holy Father, but it is becoming an annual thing now, for the young ladies in the training college directed by the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians in the *Via Marghera*, Rome, to be allowed that happiness.

Shortly before the time for the examinations and the end of the College Year, a hundred of these students were admitted to an audience with His Holiness Pius X, in the Hall of the Consistory. It was just striking twelve, midday, when the Pope entered, and he immediately recited the *Regina coeli* to which all responded. Taking his seat, the Pope, talking in his fatherly way, said to the students. "I am grateful for

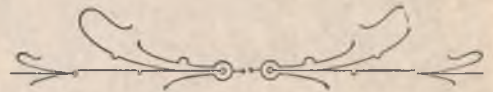
*your visit to me this morning, and gladly accede to your desire for the blessing of the Vicar of Jesus Christ on your work, so that God may keep you in His holy grace."*

"I bless your parents and your homes; may you always be a source of comfort there, a model of those virtues which the good sisters have sought to instil into your hearts."

"Your examinations too I bless, since you wish it; may you all succeed in them and thus fulfil the hopes that your parents and teachers have in you: I bless in a special manner those who are finishing their course; in the positions they obtain may they be apostles in the cause of our Holy Religion; and may their good influence be felt not only in their teaching, but in their good example and holiness of life."

"I am fully alive to the dangers that will beset you; but if you remain steadfast, Almighty God will protect you; the little ones you have to teach will learn to love and respect you and you will be able to draw their souls to God. Above all keep up your spiritual exercises, especially the frequentation of the Sacraments. Thus you will be safely guarded from all attacks."

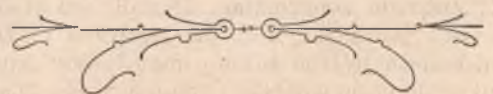
Such good counsel from the lips of the Supreme Pontiff made a deep impression which will carry with it a life-long remembrance.



## The Salesian Bulletin

Printed and Published at the  
Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy.

This Magazine is sent to Catholics who manifest a desire to become Members of the Association of Salesian Co-operators, and concur in helping our Society in any way whatsoever.







## DEVOTION TO OUR LADY Help of Christians

We are persuaded, that no aid but that of Heaven can avail us in the sorrowful vicissitudes of our day, and that especially through the intercession of Her who in every age has proved Herself the Help of Christians.

PIUS PP. X.

### Echoes of the Festival

#### OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS.

THE external pomp of celebrations must not be regarded as constituting true devotion to Our Lady. "Nothing is so pleasing to the Queen of Heaven," writes The Holy Father in his encyclical *Ad diem illum*, "as for us to know how to love and serve Jesus Christ. The people hasten to her temples, her Altars are splendidly adorned, public services are carried out with great magnificence; all this is not a little useful for the increase of the piety of the faithful. However, if the will does not co-operate in these manifestations we have but a show and the appearance only of religion. Our Lady on witnessing such outward displays might very well repeat the words of our Lord: *This people honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me* (1).

The Pope continuing says: "True devotion accordingly must spring from the heart, and in this case the worship of the body avails nothing if it be not accompanied by that of the heart. Now this worship of the spirit demands that we carry out to the full the commandments of Our Lord Jesus Christ; and if that alone can be esteemed true love which has the power of commanding the will, it is ne-

cessary that our will should be in union with Our Lady's—to serve in all things her Divine Son."

It seems to us that these conditions laid down by the Holy Father were not only fulfilled, but were characteristic of the solemnity in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians, accounts of which pour in upon the fountain head from divers quarters far and near. It was no mere outward show, but the outcome of profound sentiments of devotion, apparent from the recorded numbers who approached the Holy Sacraments.

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The chief feasts of the Congregation are the most natural occasions for fresh activity on the part of the Co-operators, and many places include a Conference among the items of the solemnity.

The Right Rev. Bishop of Lugano spent the feast at our school at Ascona, designated *The Pontifical College*. He himself, in the evening of a memorable day, gave the Conference to the Co-operators. His Lordship was most eloquent in his reminiscences of the doings of Don Bosco, the athlete of his times, as he called him. The necessity and methods of Co-operation also occupied his attention for some minutes and he urged the members of the Association to redoubled efforts in his own name and that of the Supreme Pontiff. The procession after the Conference was a remarkable one, even where religious processions are

(1) Matt. xv, 8.

traditionally made occasions of great magnificence. At a general meeting afterwards commemorative of the event two telegrams were read from His Holiness the Pope; one to the Rector of the Pontifical college: *The Holy Father cordially blesses all who are taking part with you in the religious celebrations in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians.* The other was to the Bishop: *The Holy Father, is pleased to hear of the successful re-union with the object of promoting Don. Bosco's work and sends his blessing to your Lordship and each one present.* After such authoritative approbation the words of the Bishop in his evening Conference came home with a more telling and lasting effect.

At the important city of Bologna the Cardinal Archbishop took a prominent part in the celebrations. As a Co-operator no one has been more zealous than Cardinal Svampa, whose metropolitan city of Bologna boasts of having been the first to welcome an International Salesian Congress, and eminently one of the most successful and enthusiastic. On numberless occasions has His Eminence addressed a crowded audience on recurrences of this and other festivals, but seldom with more flowing and appropriate words or imparting so much of his own enthusiasm and zeal.



## From the Annals of the Sanctuary.

### THE MONTH OF JULY.

1903. By a rescript of the 29th of July, the late Supreme Pontiff Leo XIII. granted to all the members of the Archconfraternity of Our Lady Help of Christians—if living in a district where no Salesian Church exists, or where the Archconfraternity has not been erected—the privilege of gaining by a visit to their own parish church or, in communities, their private chapel, those particular indulgences which had as one of their conditions a visit to a Salesian Church, or centre of the Archconfraternity.

## GRACES and FAVOURS

Cape Town (South Africa).—A young friend of the Salesian Institute from Transvaal, wishes to acknowledge in the *Bulletin* the cure from acute neuralgic pains in the head which prevented him from his work.

The cure was obtained through a Novena to Mary Help of Christians.

July, 1906.

A Client of MARY.

### After a pilgrimage to the Sanctuary.

A certain lady of this town Esino, had for about four years been afflicted with a complaint which caused frequent vomiting. Innumerable medicines and methods of treatment were tried by myself and other physicians, and though some partial relief was obtained the recurrence of the vomiting finally caused us to regard the lady's complaint as incurable. She had been in several hospitals but with little apparent good resulting.

Having heard, however, of the intended pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Our Lady Help of Christians at Turin she wished to join in it on the 23rd of May last (the eve of the feast day). To her own and my utter surprise the vomiting has disappeared as though by some wonderful charm. A whole month has now passed without any re-appearance.

Esino (Italy), June 23rd, 1906.

Dr. A. MOREA.

Caxias (Brazil). Typhus fever was raging in our neighbourhood and a servant in our own household had died of it. Very many of the neighbouring families had one or more members stricken down by it and we were in terror lest it should seek more victims in our house. To secure ourselves against it we made a novena to Mary Help of Christians, promising publication and a thank-offering.

With grateful hearts we now fulfil our promise and beg a continuance of her maternal protection.

May, 1906.

A. Salesian Co-operator.

Dublin. A client of Mary Help of Christians begs the prayers of the Co-operators in order to obtain a much desired temporal favour through the intercession of Our Lady. A Mass in thanksgiving is also promised.

July, 1906.

ANON.

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin, 1906

(b) The devotions performed by the little boys of the Oratory in their own private Chapel, including also the Mass at which they daily assist;

(c) All the Services, Novenas, Feasts and Solemnities whatsoever, that are celebrated in the aforesaid church;

(d) The prayers and good works performed by the Salesians themselves and by their protégés in their Homes, Colleges, Hospices, Oratories, Missions, etc., in Italy, in France, in Spain, in England, in Austria, in Switzerland, in America, in Asia, in Africa,—in a word, wherever they are established or may be called by Divine Providence.

4. Participation in the holy Masses will commence on the day after the alms have come to hand; all the other spiritual advantages are enjoyed from the moment of inscription.

5. The contributor, we repeat, of one shilling given once for all, is entitled to put his intentions in all the six Masses and all the other pious works, for his own advantage or for that of his friends, living or dead, and to change the intention in every circumstance according to his particular wants or desires.

6. Inscriptions may also be made in favour of departed friends, of children, and of any class whatsoever of persons, even without their knowledge or consent.

7. Persons desiring to participate more abundantly in these spiritual advantages may do so by repeating the alms of one shilling, thereby multiplying the inscriptions as often as they please.

8. The offerings thus collected are destined for the maintenance of the boys of the Hospice or Oratory founded by Don Bosco on the grounds annexed to the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Salesians are in duty bound to fulfil all the obligations of the Charitable Association as above described.

9. The names of subscribers will be entered on the Registers of the Association and preserved in the Temple of the Sacred Heart, in Rome, for perpetual remembrance.

10. There are two centres for enrolment, one in Rome the other in Turin. Address: The Rev. Rector, Ospizio del Sacro Cuore di Gesù, Via Porta S. Lorenzo, 42. Rome; or, The V. Rev. Michael Rua, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy.

APPROBATION.

Pium Opus adprobamus, eidemque largissimam fidelium opem ominamur,  
Ex Aed. Vic., die 27 Junii 1888.

L. M. PAROCCHI, Card. Vic.

*We approve the "Charitable Association" and we wish it the greatest concourse of the faithful.*  
Given at Rome, etc.

THE PAPAL BLESSING.

The Holy Father has deigned to accord the blessing asked for the Charitable Association of the Sacred Heart.

1. Given from the Vatican, June 30th, 1888.

ANGELO RINALDI, Chaplain, Sec.

# SALESIAN SCHOOLS

SURREY HOUSE, SURREY LANE  
BATTERSEA, LONDON, S. W.



**DIRECTED AND TAUGHT BY THE SALESIAN FATHERS.**

The principal object of this School (which is distinct from the Orphanage) is to provide a classical education at a moderate charge for those boys who desire to study for the priesthood. The course is arranged to meet the requirements of the College of Preceptors and the London University Examinations. Boys who have no vocation for the Ecclesiastical state are prepared for any other career that they may wish to follow. The House is surrounded by a large garden and playground, and is situated in a most healthy locality, a few minutes' walk from the Park.

For particulars apply to the Superior, the Very Rev. Father Macey, Salesian Schools, Surrey Lane, Battersea, London S. W.

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*The Salesian Fathers have opened a school for boys at their House at Farnborough, Hants. A course similar to that at the above school is given. For particulars apply to:*

*The Rev. E. Marsh  
Salesian Institute  
Queens Rd, Farnborough, Hants.*

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*A preparatory school for little boys has been opened by the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians, in a delightful situation at Chertsey on Thames. Communications to be addressed:*

*The Rev. Mother  
Eastworth House, Eastworth St.  
Chertsey, Surrey*